

# CALIFORNIA'S CROP PRODUCTION REPORT

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**Grapes** - Wine type variety grape production for California is forecast at 2.90 million tons, up 13% from 1998. The wine grape crop is progressing well with good maturity. Growers are expecting a good quality crop due to recent warm days and cool nights. The table type grape production is expected to total 750,000 tons, up 16% from last year. The California raisin type variety grape forecast is 2.25 million tons, up 4% from last year.

**Apples** - Yield for 1999 is forecast to be 23,600 pounds per acre, up 7% from last year. Production is forecast at 825 million pounds, 1% above 1998. California's cool spring caused harvest of early apple varieties to begin about ten days later than normal. There have been no major disruptions caused by extreme weather, such as rain, wind, storm, or hail. Thus, growers are expecting an extremely clean crop, with fruit sizes slightly larger than last year.

**Olives** - The 1999 olive crop forecast is 125,000 tons, up 39% from the 1998 production of 90,000 tons. Due to good weather conditions during the bloom and pollination period, most growers expect a large crop with good quality. Damage from the freeze has been minimal. Thus far, fruit size appears to be normal in most orchards.

**Pears** - The forecast of the 1999 Bartlett pear crop in California is 285,000 tons, up 3% from 1998. The Bartlett pear harvest is well underway in the Sacramento area with approximately one-fourth of the crop picked. Good quality and fruit size are reported. The production of other pears is expected to be 30,000 tons, unchanged from 1998.

**Cotton** - Upland cotton production is forecast at 1.30 million bales, up 13% from 1998. Harvested acreage is expected to total 585,000 acres, 6% below last year. American Pima cotton production is forecast at 580,000 bales, up 64% from 1998. The 259,000 acres for harvest are up 44% from last year.

**Others** - The rice production forecast is 43.7 million cwt., up 34%; alfalfa hay is at 6.90 million tons, up 4%; other hay is forecast at 1.46 million tons, down 2%; sugar beets are up 12% from 1998 with 3.17 million tons; corn is at 1.22 million tons, up 5% from last year; dry beans are forecast at 2.90 million cwt., 42% above the 1998 crop.